(b) whether any decrease in the number of smokers has taken place after the implementation of the said Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) It is for the respective State Governments to implement various provisions of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 including banning of smoking in public places. Data regarding action taken against persons smoking and public places is not centrally maintained.

Sub-Standard Medicines

1107. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 20 per cent drugs in the market are sub-standard;

(b) if so, the action Government have taken against the manufacturers and chemists who supply sub-standard medicines which play havoc for the patients;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are about 29 drug inspectors to keep tab on 10,000 chemist shops and 715 manufacturing units in the Capital; and

(d) if so, the number of shops manufacturing units inspected by them during the last two years and the number of persons booked by them?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No Sir. As per the feedback available from the Drugs Controllers of States/UT for the period 2003-2004, 39465 samples were tested out of which 3441 samples were found to be not of standard quality which is 8.72%. So far as NCT of Delhi is concerned, the percentage occurance of not of standard quality drugs for the period 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 is 4.3 and 2.5 percent based on the test reports received by the Drugs Control Administration, Delhi.

(b) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules thereunder, the responsibility of regulate manufacture and sale of drugs

including monitoring their quality, rests with the State Governments. The Drugs Inspectors of States/UTs are empowered under the said Act to draw samples randomly from the licenses premises to validate their quality from the drugs testing laboratories. On receipt of the test report from the Government Analyst of testing laboratories, necessary action including administrative and legal are initiated as per the provisions of the said Act and Rules thereunder against the persons who manufacture and sell drugs of questionable quality. So far as NCT of Delhi is concerned, as per the feedback available from Drugs Control Administration Delhi, appropriate action by way suspension/cancellation/prosecutions have been taken against the manufacturers located in Delhi and matters pertaining to manufacturers located outside Delhi are referred to the concerned State Drugs Controller for appropriate action. Chemists are asked to recall the sub-standard drugs for returning to the manufacturers.

(c) As per the feedback available by the Drugs Control Administration Delhi, there are 29 drugs inspectors in position in the Drugs Control Department of Govt. of NCT of Delhi against the sanctioned strength of 31 drugs inspectors. There are a total number of 9616 retail/wholesale dealers of drugs and 744 manufacturing units in the capital as on 31.3.2004.

(d) As per the feedback available by the Drugs Control Administration Delhi, the total number of shops/drugs manufacturing units inspected in 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 and contravention observed/detected are as under:

	2002-2003 Mfg./Sale	2003-2004 Mfg./Sale
No. of Inspections	956/6266	788/6535
No. of Contraventions	41/943	19/949

Sex Determination Test

†1108. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to stop sex determination tests being conducted illegally in the country at present, the Supreme Court has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.